

QUOTE: SECRETARY WOKINGHAM TOWN F.C.

"THE finest thing that has happened in amateur football. It is going to improve football and it will help the club. The clubs have now got to be run by the officials and committee and not by the managers and players. Managers all have ideas on defensive play but now they will have to change their ideas to get their teams to attack. I am looking forward to the coming season and I believe that the new system will level out the positions of the various teams."

MR. C. H. HARWOOD

QUOTE: CHAIRMAN MAIDENHEAD F.C.

"THE scheme can't do any harm. I am pleased that Maidenhead have got the chance to play in the league. By next year I feel that there will be a large number of clubs clamouring for entry into the league. It is a gimmick which should catch on from the point of view of attractive football and I think we shall find that the hard men of amateur football will no longer be required. However, referees must be consistent in their decision. I would have thought that the referee's fees in the second division should have been doubled like those in the First Division."

MR. CLIFF WEST

More points for win; cash awards for goals

MORE points for a win and cash incentives for goals. These are the two basic principles that emerge from the scheme of sponsorship laid down by Jimmy Hill.

To encourage attacking football the points system in both divisions of the league has been changed so that three points are awarded for a win and only one for a draw.

There will be weekly awards for goals. If a club wins a match by three clear goals — i.e. 4-1, 3-0, — it will be paid a bonus of £40 and £25 in the Second Division. Similar awards will apply to the three highest scoring clubs who do not receive a cash prize for finishing first, second or third in their respective divisions.

A sportsmanship pool is to be formed. Teams will lose four points if a player is sent off, and one if he is cautioned. If a team loses eight points or more in the course of a season, it will not qualify

for a share of the Sportsmanship Pool. Teams who qualify for the Pool will receive a pro rata share of the Pool according to the number of points lost.

If the scheme had been in operation last year neither Wokingham nor Maidenhead would have qualified for any of the Sportsmanship Pool. Wokingham had 14 cautions and one player sent off.

The highest scorers in the First Division will receive £300, the second £200, and third £100. The figures for the Second Division are £150, £100 and £50 respectively.

Referee fees are also to be increased to £8 per match in the First Division only. £4 of this fee will be paid by the club and the rest by the sponsor.

There is also a big cash incentive to finish in the top three of the league. Division One winners will pick up £1,000 in cash and the second £500 and third £300. The figures for the Second Division are £250 and £150 respectively.

However, if the team finishing first, second or third loses eight disciplinary points on the scale set out, then it will not qualify for one of these prizes. The money instead will go towards increasing the Sportsmanship Pool in its Division.

The sponsorship budget is as follows. Goal incentives (weekly awards) £5,100, Goals incentives (season awards) £900, Sportsmanship Pool £3,000, Referees Fees £2,000, Incentives to win the league £2,700, Administration costs £2,675, making a total of £16,375.

In return for its sponsorship, Rothmans will expect all clubs to co-operate in advertising the sponsor in its programme, by displaying posters, making broadcasts about the league being sponsored, co-operate in promotion of the league, accept trophies and medals with the sponsor's name engraved on them, and sell the sponsor's brand of cigarettes on all grounds.

WYCOMBE Wanderers, who reached the third qualifying round of the F.A. Cup last year before going out to Amateur Cup winners Walton and Hersham 1-0 at Stompond Lane, have the unenviable task of a visit to Tilbury on Saturday, September 15 next season.

The Blues came out of Monday's F.A. Cup qualifying rounds draw with about the worst encounter they could have had in their section which consists of Tilbury, Chatham Town, Molesley, Farnborough Town, Woking, Tonbridge, Uxbridge, Fleet Town.

Woking and Tonbridge have been drawn against each other in a preliminary round match and the winner of that tie meets Spartan Leaguers Farnborough Town. Wanderers face the Farnborough v Woking or Ton-

Wanderers meet Tilbury in Cup

bridge match at Loakes Park in the second round.

If they are successful then, they are again away to one of the other four teams.

Tilbury were leading the Athenian League Premier Division for much of last season, and in fact went through one of their most successful years for some time. Slough pipped them in the end for the championship, however.

The Essex club are one of several who were elevated to the new Isthmian League, Division Two, last term.

Once again the question of finances must be raised. Without doubt Wanderers will have suffered from their F.A. Cup exit last season as I'm sure the balance sheet will testify at the club's Annual General Meeting later this month.

Last season, the Blues started

their F.A. Cup campaign with an equally tough task away to Tooting and Mitcham. On that day they ran out worthy winners 3-1 with goals coming from Larry Pritchard, Mick Holifield and Johnny Hutchison.

In the next round they had a much easier time at Egham Town, although Egham held their own until half-time and indeed were leading 1-0 at the start of the new half. Goals from Keith Searle (3), Holifield (2)

and Tony Horseman, made sure of a third round place on October 21.

It was the usual hard game at Walton with three bookings, Lambert and Morris of Walton and John Maskell of Wycombe. Willie Smith got the deciding goal and remember Walton went on to beat fourth division club Exeter City before losing to Margate of the Southern League.

If Wycombe Wanderers are to hold their own financially next season, a good run in the F.A. and Amateur Cups is imperative.